

*Neighborhood*

# Block Parties



*Together we can make a difference!*



2017



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The West Valley City Neighborhood Services Office strives to preserve, improve, and revitalize neighborhoods by helping residents access City services. An emphasis is placed on partnerships between residents, business owners, elected officials, Police and City employees to build and preserve clean, safe neighborhoods that reflect the diversity of the City's population.

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**WEST VALLEY CITY**

# **Neighborhood Watch**

[www.wvc-ut.gov/neighborhoods](http://www.wvc-ut.gov/neighborhoods)

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## CHAPTER 1

# WHY HAVE A BLOCK PARTY?

Why organize a Block Party? Block Parties are simply a GREAT way to meet your neighbors! They provide a casual relaxed setting where residents can meet, play, eat, and hopefully, find similarities that bring them closer together. Neighborhood meetings are great places to discuss business and issues, but tend to be formal and less conducive to meeting new people. With a little effort and consistency, a neighborhood of strangers can be transformed into a connected community of families that care for each other and the overall health and vibrancy of their neighborhood.

To be successful, a Block Party requires some planning. This guide is intended to help you and your neighborhood organize, find needed resources, advertise, and make sure all the necessary approvals and permits (as needed) have been filed.

Some of the reasons neighborhoods have a regular block party:

### **Safety**

You and your neighbors can actually increase the safety of your neighborhood just by getting to know each other. You can exchange telephone numbers and keep an eye on each other's property. You may also want to join the Neighborhood Watch program, if you have not already done so, which is a great way to reduce crime in your neighborhood.

### **Address Issues**

Block Parties allow for neighbors to come together and address key issues in their neighborhood that need to be attended to. By working together, your group can successfully take care of problems that are affecting the neighborhood.

### **Know Your Neighbors**

Your neighbors have a wealth of knowledge that they may be able to share with you. You can all learn from each other by connecting with each other. You are creating an exciting opportunity to learn something new! By getting together with your neighbors, you are creating a sense of belonging in your neighborhood, which is an important aspect of building safe and positive communities.

### **Beautification**

Neighbors in West Valley City have a wonderful opportunity to participate in the beautification of their City. Neighborhood beautification projects can be performed individually or you can gather your neighbors together to adopt a local area or park for a beautification program. Contact the Parks Department at (801) 955-3715 for more information. You can also organize a neighborhood clean up by contacting the Public Works Department and making arrangements to have garbage dumpsters delivered to your neighborhood. Contact the Sanitation Division at (801) 955-3723 for more information.

### **Fun**

Having fun on your street and at a neighborhood park is a wonderful experience that children and adults will enjoy and hopefully create lasting memories. Playing games such as road hockey or frisbee together can help break down barriers and build lasting friendships. Its simple, it's about having fun together, no excuses or reasons are needed, just celebrate!

### **Harmony**

By having a Block Party, you and your neighbors can help to reduce conflict in your neighborhood. If there is a difficult situation brewing, you can successfully deal with the situation as a group. By providing an opportunity for communication, you are on the path to a resolution to the problem.

### **National Night Out**

Participation in this program has brought national recognition to the City and has proven to be a positive and enjoyable way to meet neighbors and strengthen neighborhoods. National Night Out is traditionally held on the first Tuesday in August. West Valley City also provides several opportunities for the public to learn more about crime prevention by hosting events, safety fairs and training workshops throughout the month of August. For more information about National Night Out, please contact the Neighborhood Services Office or visit [www.wvc-ut.gov/nno](http://www.wvc-ut.gov/nno).

## CHAPTER 2

# START PLANNING EARLY!

Your neighborhood organization should start thinking about dates, activities and supplies a couple of months, or on shorter notice, a couple weeks ahead. Start by enlisting the help of neighbors. Find out how they can help and what they can supply. Try to involve as many people as possible, and make sure everyone stays in touch with one another.

Neighborhood events can be held in backyards, neighborhood parks or on the street. You can make your block party just about any shape or size. Successful block party planners will invite the whole neighborhood. Activities could include live music, helium balloons, face painting and lots of food. Other popular activities include sporting events like softball, volleyball, basketball, flag football games or tournaments. Tug-of-wars, water balloon tosses, egg tosses and relay races allow for participants of all ages. Some neighborhoods choose to have cook-offs, cookouts, BBQs or pot luck dinners. Visits from police and fire departments, parades, flashlight walks, contests and watermelon busts are also popular.

Some people will come in response to fliers and posters, others in response to the sounds and smells of the event itself. Block parties can be themed -- wrap up a block cleanup or service project or get together after a block garage sale -- there are many reasons to have an activity.

Whatever the nature of your first activity, the next will be much easier to organize. For some neighborhoods, activities become important annual events. Whatever you do, be sure to include everyone. If you have businesses near your neighborhood, be sure to include them as well -- they may even be interested in helping to sponsor the event.



Planning is Everything! The most “effortless” looking events are usually the ones that are most carefully planned. To make sure you and your neighborhood residents have a great time at the block party, you will need to plan ahead. Here are some helpful tips:

- Allow at least 4-6 weeks of planning time before your event.
- Find a group of individuals in your neighborhood who are willing to work together to form an organizing committee.
- Once formed, divide up tasks: applications, budget, publicity, food, activities, set up, clean up, etc.
- Decide how large a group you want to invite—just your block, the entire neighborhood, or something in between.
- Pick a date, time and location, and make sure to have a “bad weather” plan.
- Be sure to contact the City for street closures and permits (if required) at least 2 weeks prior to the event. (see Street Closures and Permits)
- Most of all: HAVE FUN!





## CHAPTER 3 TYPE OF PARTY

The type of block party you organize should represent your community. If you want to have a good party, you have got to have food! Here are many ways to organize your food and frequently events are a combination of these ideas:

### **Picnic**

Everyone brings their own meal.

### **Pot Luck**

Every household is assigned to bring one dish. It can be an appetizer, salad, main dish, side dish, dessert or beverage. When organizing a pot luck, keep a master list of food assignments. You will also need to keep track of the number of neighbors attending the party and the varieties of food dishes. Pot luck meals offer the greatest variety of dishes.

### **Community Menu**

Like a dinner club, you may want to plan a menu and assign each household a specific food dish or beverage. It is a good idea to share the menu and recipes with your neighbors in advance. This method of organizing food works really well when planning a theme party.

### **Sponsored Event**

Finding a sponsor to help with providing hot dogs, hamburgers or other meat frees up neighbors to bring other items. Assign several neighbors with grills to bring them and cook for the group.

### **Catered Event**

Take up a collection and cater your party. Once you know how many neighbors to expect and how much you want to spend per person, all you have to do is place your order. The professionals do the rest.





## CHAPTER 4

# RESERVATIONS AND PERMITS


When planning your block party, you will need to be sure to work with the City to close off a street or possibly reserve the park pavilion. Additionally, if you plan to close a street, a petition will need to be signed by 51% of residential properties that are adjacent to the proposed street closure. Visit [www.wvc-ut.gov/blockparty](http://www.wvc-ut.gov/blockparty) for more information. Cul-de-sacs are ideal locations for your block party, as are neighborhood streets that can be closed off on both ends without preventing movement within the neighborhood. The City can work with you to identify the best location for your block party.

### City Parks

If you want to hold your party at a local park, you might need to reserve it. Call (801) 955-4000 to find out if your park requires a reservation.

### City Streets

If you want to close the street, you **MUST** complete a West Valley City Street Closure Request and obtain the approval of impacted neighbors. This form is available online at [www.wvc-ut.gov/blockparty](http://www.wvc-ut.gov/blockparty).



### Block Party Street Closure Process

REQUIREMENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL STREET CLOSURE REQUEST

**Step 1:**

- Complete the following Street Closure Request application. The completed application needs to be returned along with the petition of consenting neighbors and a map of the area to the Neighborhood Services one week prior to the event.

**Step 2:**

- Ask neighbors to sign the "Street Closure Request Petition." You should deliver a flier to every home about the proposed block party with your address and phone number on it. Free photocopies are available in the Neighborhood Services Office. Ask your neighbors for comments prior to the party and before going door to door for signatures.
- You must make an attempt to contact every homeowner on the street you are proposing to close and ask for their support. You are required to receive signatures of support from 51 percent of the homes on the street that will be closed.

**Step 3:**

- Return the completed application, petition and an area map marked with the location to the Neighborhood Services Office at City Hall. Staff there will help you obtain the necessary approvals.

**Step 4:**

- After the approval, make arrangements to pick up barricades or caution tape from the Neighborhood Services Office. Barricades are not stored at City Hall and will need to be brought to the building before pickup. As a reminder, West Valley City Hall is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Barricades need to be returned the next business day, Monday through Thursday. There are a limited number of barricades, especially during August.

#### SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- It is much easier to get approval to close a cul-de-sac than it is to get approval to close a through street. Main thorough-fares into subdivisions may not be closed off.
- Barricades must be removed by 10 p.m. as the city's noise ordinance restricts noise after that time.
- No alcohol is permitted on the street or public right of way.
- Barricades and tape are provided as a service by the city to close the street.
- Do not park cars to obstruct entry to streets or fire hydrants.
- For pedestrian safety, instruct residents to park their cars outside the boundaries of the closed street area if they wish to use their vehicles during the block party.
- It may be helpful to designate people who will supervise safety, and ensure noise control and cleanliness of the neighborhood.
- You may want to invite the Fire Department or the Police Department to come to your block party for demonstrations of the equipment. (Sirens attract a good crowd.)
- Take pictures of your party and Neighborhood Services will help you design and print a neighborhood newsletter.

Good luck and enjoy your party!

*Together we can make a difference!*





## CHAPTER 5 GETTING ORGANIZED

### The Basics Matter!

Gather a few neighbors together who are interested in organizing your event. Think of the planning process itself as an opportunity to have fun and make some lasting friendships. Try to involve neighbors you do not know well and who know other neighbors you do not know well. Most important, do not stress over planning the perfect party - sometimes the most casual events are the most fun. If there are people in your neighborhood who speak a language other than English, try to find a translator who can help you to reach these neighbors. This will help to bridge the language barrier. This is a great opportunity to meet people of different cultures and backgrounds!

### Role of the Organizers

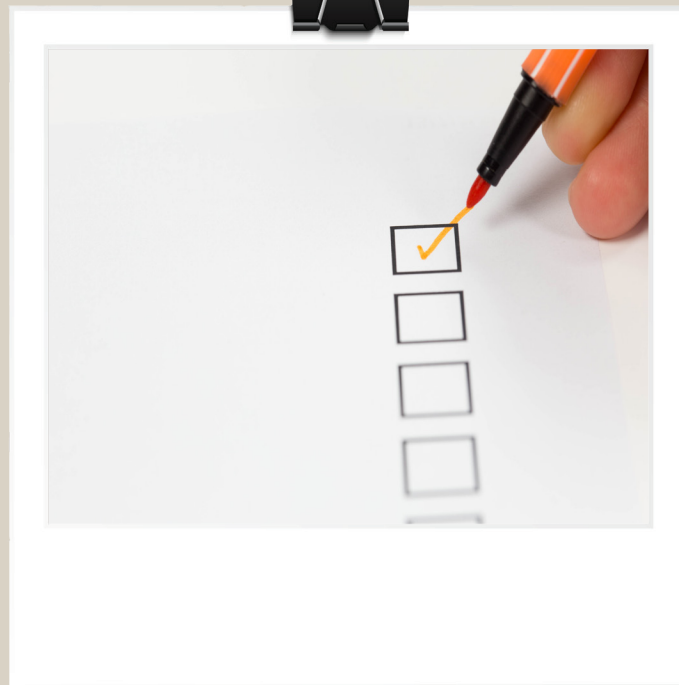
- Make decisions about the event
- Act as hosts to introduce both adults and children
- Introduce new neighbors and make everyone feel welcomed
- Follow up with assignments

### When

When choosing a date, try to look ahead 4-6 weeks in advance to allow plenty of time for planning, notifying neighbors and obtaining a permit (if needed). When deciding a time, take into consideration your neighbors schedules. In general, mid afternoon and evenings work best for most people, especially on a weekend or holiday. Respect your neighbors -- try to keep the noise down after 10:00 at night.

### Location

Choose a location that makes sense for your neighborhood. You may be able to close off the street in front of your block if you want to hold activities right in the street. If you want to close a street, you will need to get a free Street Closure Request from the West Valley City Neighborhood Services office. If you want to hold the party in yards and don't want to close a street, the City does not require permits. Despite the permit requirements, closing a street does have the advantage of making your party feel like a true block party rather than a private event. In case of stormy weather you may want to consider an alternative location may also want to be considered as a back up.



### Menu

A party simply isn't a party without food! All the other activities you plan may take a back seat to the food. Invite your neighbors to bring a favorite dish, drinks, desserts, etc. Just because you're planning the event does not mean you need to provide all the food.

### Activities

You may want to include some games and activities. Some block parties come at the end of a block cleanup, a block garage sale, or a day of tree-planting; others have a theme such as National Night Out Against Crime, the Fourth of July or celebrating some real (or made up) neighborhood anniversary.

### Resources

- Sound System
- Tables and Chairs
- Coolers
- Canopies
- Paper Goods

## CHAPTER 6

### GETTING THE WORD OUT

You have your team collected—but now what? You need to find the best way to let people know about the block party. You have several options:

- Prepare a flier. Be sure to include an RSVP contact if you need to have a total head count.
- Visit your neighbors. Now that you have your flier in hand, the most effective means of spreading the word about the Block Party is word of mouth. If time permits and you have a large enough team, divide up your party area into manageable block sizes and assign each volunteer a few streets. Not only are you inviting your neighbors, but going door-to-door provides the perfect opportunity to introduce yourself, and get to know your community members. People are more inclined to participate when they know a few friendly faces.
- Make door hangers. You may not be able to reach everyone going door-to-door. Before you head out, it is a good idea to staple a rubber band to the corner of the flier or ask the neighborhood services for some door hanger bags. If someone does not answer, just hang the flier on the door handle.
- Use Nextdoor. If you have not already done so, Nextdoor is a social media website designed just for neighborhoods. It is free and creates a “virtual” neighborhood group for only people that live in your subdivision. You can easily communicate with your neighbors, share ideas, or ask for help in preparation for the event. Visit [www.Nextdoor.com](http://www.Nextdoor.com) to sign up.
- Email residents: Email addresses provide another very easy way to communicate with your neighbors. Your local Neighborhood Watch group may help you spread your message through their email communications. Block parties strengthen neighborhood watch groups by providing another opportunity for residents to get to know each other and work together to protect their neighborhood.
- Social Media: If you have a neighborhood Facebook page or tools such as electronic newsletters or other forms of social media, use them. The more ways you try to reach your crowd, the better your chances of them attending.
- Phone Tree. If phone numbers are available, divide up the lists and have several committee members call to invite residents to the party. This also creates an opportunity to get to know someone and increases your chances of them attending.







## CHAPTER 7 ACTIVITIES

Most block parties are a time to visit and eat, food always has a very social component! Have activities and games for all ages. Having activities during your event will help keep the energy positive and help make everyone feel more connected to the event. Take time to introduce one another and point to your houses. Also keep in mind, therein possibly a great deal of talent in our neighborhood. Encourage your neighbors to share their talents, dance, music, magic, art, etc.

Your party may have a theme, or be focused on collecting funds/supplies/non-perishables for a family in need. Whatever you choose, remember to plan for some fun activities and ice-breakers. A primary goal of any block party should be for people to get to know each other.

One more thing to consider in your planning is that our city's demographics are diverse! Think about your neighborhood: Are there several generations of residents? Are you a racially or ethnically diverse neighborhood? If so, are there ways to bridge these gaps? Are there opportunities to share stories, information, or skills? And when it comes to food, there is no need for it to become complicated or expensive.

Here are some suggestions:

- Ask everyone to bring a dish for their family plus a little extra to share. If serving is done buffet style, having people RSVP with their food item may be a good idea to ensure there is a broad range of items.
- Have a BBQ where each family brings their own hotdogs, hamburgers, etc.
- If cups, plates, utensils and other items to share are being purchased, have a donation box available for residents to help contribute (a suggested donation to cover expenses is helpful).

Suggestions for Informal Activities

- Have a questionnaire about issues of interest, stories they may want to share, neighborhood activities, book club, shared cooking, etc.
- Help to decorate the area
- Have a craft table for children
- Fill out a quiz about the neighborhood or any fun trivia

Activities for the Young-at-Heart

- Street hockey, street soccer, basketball, volleyball, badminton, 3-legged race, etc
- Cardboard box-castle construction for the very young to build, play in, paint and explore (Check out appliance stores for boxes that can be donated!)
- A bike decoration contest
- Face painting and/or balloons
- A magician or clown
- Story telling for the very young
- A treasure hunt

Activities for Adults and Teens

- Free Book Exchange Table
- Ideas Exchange Table for suggestions about improving life on the block (e.g. ideas for a walking group, sketching group or study circle)
- A "Needs" and "Wants" Table where teens can find employment, (e.g. baby sitting, lawn care and gardening services, dog-walking, shopping services)
- A History Table with a display of the block from years gone by, remembering former neighbors and celebrating new ones.
- An Emergency Preparedness Table with information about Neighborhood Watch, Earthquake preparedness, etc.
- A Plant Exchange Table where neighbors can bring seedlings from their gardens to swap.
- Consider holding an evening street dance -- a country dance with a fiddler and caller, straw on the road and straw bales to sit on; or a swing dance and street ballroom dancing. Atmosphere after dark is important. Consider stringing Christmas lights around the perimeter of the party, and candles for the tables.

# CHAPTER 8

## FOOD!

### Sample Menu Ideas

#### Appetizers

- Guacamole and chips
- Seven layer bean dip

#### Salads

- Black eyed cabbage salad
- Pasta salad
- Potato salad
- Tossed green salad

#### Main Dishes

- BBQ chicken
- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs

#### Side Dishes

- Corn on the cob
- Grilled vegetables
- Baked beans
- Garlic bread

#### Desserts

- Apple crisp
- Chocolate chip cookies
- Watermelon

### Food Safety Tips

- Poultry must be cooked thoroughly to be safe to eat. Cook poultry slowly and turn frequently. If it is convenient, poultry may be precooked in the oven, then finished on the grill. Grill poultry until internal temperature reaches 170 degrees in the breast or 185 degrees in the thigh.
- When grilling kabobs, remember that wood burns. Soak wooden skewers in water before threading on food.
- Don't save and reuse marinades. Discard and make a fresh batch for additional food. Also, stop basting foods with marinades at least 5 minutes before cooking time is done to help insure that bacteria are destroyed.
- Avoid bacteria-friendly temperatures. Bacteria thrive at temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees F. Thaw and marinate food in the refrigerator, not on a counter top. Perishable foods should be chilled thoroughly and served surrounded by ice or frozen gel packs to maintain safe food temperatures.



### Grilling Tips

- Make sure your grill is clean. Clean with a wire brush or use a big wad of crumpled up aluminum foil.
- Start early. Charcoal briquettes will need 20-45 minutes before they are hot enough to cook over (about 75% white). A gas grill's lava rocks will need about 10-15 minutes to preheat.
- If you use lighter fluid, let it soak into the briquettes before lighting the grill. Never add more lighter fluid once the fire is burning.
- If a barbecue recipe calls for direct heat, it means the food is cooked directly over the heat source. Direct heat is good for cooking thinner foods such as fish, beef, lamb, pork and vegetables. If the recipe calls for indirect heat, this means the food is cooked off to the side of the heat source. Indirect heat is better for cooking poultry, larger cuts of meat, anything that requires longer, slower cooking. The heat surrounds the food and cooks it through without burning the outside.
- Many people prefer to clean up while the grill is warm so that stuck food comes off more easily.



## CHAPTER 9

### SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

Everything is planned, now it is time to make it happen! Be sure you have as many volunteers as needed to carry out all the tasks of your block party. Here are some helpful tips:

- **ASK FOR HELP!** You are just one person and you can not do everything, plus this is a NEIGHBORHOOD event. Don't be afraid to ask you neighbors for help when you need it.
- Let the small things be small! If an issue arises at you block party, do not panic, take a deep breath and move forward. If it is something big, take appropriate actions promptly.
- Plan to start setting up at least 2 hours before the event.
- Have the areas for food, seating, music, games, little ones, etc. designated before your volunteers arrive. You may want to put signs out designating the areas.
- Be sure to place signs at the entrance to your party.
- Follow guidelines for blocking the street as directed by Street Closure Request.
- Bring grills, chairs and tents (if needed).
- Set up tables for food.
- Be sure to get the drinks into the ice coolers early so that they are ready when the party starts.
- Designate an area for games and activities and set them up.
- Place garbage containers in strategic locations. Have enough trash cans/bags on hand to change out if they get full.
- Assign a greeter, and consider a sign-in table that includes the sign-in book, name tags and neighborhood map. To stay in touch with residents and for future planning, collect emails and phone numbers from attendees. If you use name tags, you may also want to consider putting the parents' names on the bottoms of children's name tags.
- **ENJOY** the night, you have worked hard and you should enjoy the event just like all your neighbors. Take time to eat, have a drink, and enjoy the company of your neighbors.
- If a neighborhood member cannot attend because he or she is bedridden, select small delegations to bring in food and conversation.
- Remember to make your block party a positive experience for all of your neighbors, even if they choose not to attend. Keep noise levels under control and end the party by 10:00 p.m.

Once your party is through, be sure to have enough volunteers to help with the cleanup. Here are a few things that will make things easier:

- Have people leave with what they brought, including extra food.
- Bring storage bags in the event of unclaimed leftovers.
- Be sure to clean up the street and any yards that may have been used during the party. Everyone will appreciate it!
- Have a designated place to put trash and recycling before trash day. A few neighbors can share the load.
- If you used any City resources, be sure to return everything as quickly as possible, on the next business day if possible.

Remember, the City is your neighbor too, and we'd like to be invited to your party! Police officers who patrol your neighborhood always enjoy stopping by just to say hello, and to let kids have their pictures taken with a police car. The City can also provide speakers on a wide variety of topics, from open space to the arts to emergency planning. If you have a request for your event, please ask. We may be able to find the resources you are looking for.

Finally, the most important thing is for everyone, no matter what age, to feel welcome and a part of the neighborhood and the party. The name-tags help, but a personal touch with people speaking to one another and making introductions makes a huge difference.





## CHAPTER 10

### WRAP-UP

Don't forget, once the party is finished and everything is cleaned up, please do a few things that will help with future events. These will help not just you, but other neighborhoods as well.

- Remember to thank those who attended, especially those who helped with organizing and execution of the party. A little appreciation goes a long way. You will have many more hands to help the next time you plan a neighborhood event! You can do this in person at the end of the event or, if you have collected contact information from attendees, an email to all will also do the trick! Having regular communication with your neighbors will also help you identify others who may want to help in the future.
- Create a neighborhood Block Party archive. Store relevant information regarding your Block Party in a binder so that when you need to reference it again it is ready.
- Share photos, recipes, and suggestions on the WVC Neighborhood Services Facebook page. We want to see how our neighborhoods are throwing their parties, and hear how we can make the process better. Let us know what made the party successful and what connections were made. You may inspire others to throw their own parties!
- Continue to build relationships. When you are planning your next event, do not reinvent the wheel! You already have a group in place that helped organize this party. Maybe you heard from a few others who also would like to help out. Be sure to cultivate those relationships. Meet informally for coffee or dinner, a walk, or dessert in the park. The stronger your core group is, the easier it will be to plan your next event.
- Take time to relax, go to the park with your kids, enjoy a dinner with you neighbors, or sit on your porch with a good book. Simply take some YOU time and relax.
- Don't let too much time pass between neighborhood events. While the energy and momentum from your first neighborhood event are still high, start thinking about what you can do next. Having a calendar of neighborhood events for the next 6 months can help with planning and dividing up responsibilities.





## CHAPTER 11

### IDEA CENTER (SAMPLE DOCUMENTS / RESOURCES)

There are many great source of ideas to help organize your neighborhood Block Party. In addition to the internet a great source of ideas is Pinterest. Simply search "Block Party Ideas" and you will be amazed at all the great ideas!!

The following pages include some examples that can be printed and used to help you with planning your neighborhood Block Party. These are just a few basic suggestions.

- Sample Decorations
- Sample Games
- Sample Recipes
- Planning Committee Invitations
- Sign-up Sheet
- Block Party Invitation
- Poster
- Event Schedule
- Prize Drawing Tickets (Avery 5163 Label Size)
- Event Sign-in Sheet
- Prizes / Ribbons
- Thank You Card

#### Sample Decorations

One popular and inexpensive idea to help make your event more festive is to create your own flags. It is easy:

1. Use any size paper
2. Cut out a flag shape similar to this:



3. Color and decorate each flag.
4. Fold the top edge of the flag.
5. Tape the fold down, leaving the ends open.
6. Assemble the flags using a thick string
7. May we suggest the letters "BLOCK PARTY"
8. Leave extra string at each end to hang your event flags!

#### Sample Games

Some game ideas that are easy and frequently used:

- Balloon Toss
- Corn Hole
- Ring Toss
- Cake Walk
- Eating Contest
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Eating Contest (pie, hot dogs, watermelon, etc)

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Find one person to sign each of the blanks below. Each person may sign only ONCE on this paper. Have fun finding out wacky, wild things about each other.

#### FIND SOMEONE WHO...

- \_\_\_\_\_ Has two cats
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has been to a concert at the Maverik Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has lived in 10 or more homes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is a twin
- \_\_\_\_\_ Can roll his/her tongue
- \_\_\_\_\_ Was born outside the US
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has met a famous person
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is taller than both parents
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has more than one computer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has bungee jumped
- \_\_\_\_\_ Can fox trot
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wears contacts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has been to Disneyland in the last year
- \_\_\_\_\_ Owns an Elvis record
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wore a poodle skirt to school
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has dyed his/her hair
- \_\_\_\_\_ Was a cheerleader in high school
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has written a poem
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has flown a plane
- \_\_\_\_\_ Can do a flip on a trampoline
- \_\_\_\_\_ The first letter of their first name and last name are the same
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is double jointed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Can do a one handed cartwheel
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has been or currently is in the military
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has lived in West Valley City their whole life
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has more than four children
- \_\_\_\_\_ Speaks a foreign language

## Sample Recipes

### SIMPLE BBQ SAUCE

- 1/2 (1 ounce) package dry onion soup mix
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 cups ketchup
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

In a medium bowl, mix together onion soup mix, sugar, ketchup and Worcestershire sauce. Do not use until the last few minutes of cooking, because this sweet sauce will burn if cooked for too long or over too high heat.

### BBQ SAUCE

- 2 cups ketchup
- 2 cups tomato sauce
- 1 1/4 cups brown sugar
- 1 1/4 cups red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup unsulfured molasses
- 4 teaspoons hickory-flavored liquid smoke
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/4 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon celery seed
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

In a large saucepan over medium heat, mix together the ketchup, tomato sauce, brown sugar, wine vinegar, molasses, liquid smoke and butter. Season with garlic powder, onion powder, chili powder, paprika, celery seed, cinnamon, cayenne, salt and pepper. Reduce heat to low, and simmer for up to 20 minutes. For thicker sauce, simmer longer; for thinner sauce, less time is needed. Sauce can also be thinned using a bit of water if necessary. Brush sauce onto any kind of meat during the last 10 minutes of cooking.

### MOJO GRILLING MARINADE

- 6 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 cup minced yellow onion
- 1 cup freshly squeezed orange juice
- 1/2 cup freshly squeezed lime juice
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon-pepper seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce (e.g. Tabasco™) (optional)
- 1 cup olive oil

Pulse the garlic and onion in a blender until very finely chopped. Pour in orange juice and lime juice; season with cumin, oregano, lemon-pepper, black pepper, salt, cilantro and hot pepper sauce. Blend until thoroughly incorporated. Pour in the olive oil and blend until smooth.

### MARINATED MEDITERRANEAN SALAD

- 2 large tomatoes, cut into wedges
- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup Italian salad dressing, divided
- 1/2 cup slivered fresh basil leaves
- 1/2 cup sliced pitted ripe olives
- 1 (12 ounce) package Ronzoni Garden Delight Rotini
- 1/2 pound cubed mozzarella cheese

In large bowl, stir together tomatoes, onion, 1/2 cup salad dressing, basil and olives. Meanwhile, cook pasta according to package directions; drain. Rinse with cold water to cool quickly; drain well. In large bowl, toss marinated vegetables, cooled pasta, remaining salad dressing and mozzarella cheese. Cover; refrigerate before serving.

### POTATO SALAD

- 5 pounds potatoes, peeled and chopped
- 10 eggs
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 (24 ounce) jar sweet pickles, drained and chopped
- 2 cups mayonnaise

Place the potatoes in a large pan of water and boil over medium-low heat until tender, about 12 minutes. Drain the potatoes and place in the refrigerator to cool. Place the eggs in a saucepan of cold water over medium heat and bring to a full boil. Turn off the heat, cover the pan and allow the eggs to sit in the hot water for about 15 minutes. Cool the eggs thoroughly under cold running water and shell them. Chop the cooled eggs and place them in a large salad bowl. Stir the onion, sweet pickles and mayonnaise into the eggs and let the mixture chill in the refrigerator at least 1/2 hour to blend the flavors. Mix in the chilled chopped potatoes and refrigerate for at least 1/2 hour. Serve cold.

### 3 BEAN SALAD

- 1 15-oz can cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 15-oz can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 15-oz can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
- 2 celery stalks, chopped fine
- 1/2 red onion, chopped fine
- 1 cup fresh, finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1 Tbsp fresh finely chopped rosemary
- 1/3 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

In a large bowl, mix the beans, celery, onion, parsley and rosemary. In a separate small bowl, whisk together the vinegar, sugar, olive oil, salt and pepper. Add the dressing to the beans. Toss to coat. Chill beans in the refrigerator for several hours to allow the beans to soak up the flavor of the dressing.





### **LAYERED BEAN DIP**

1 (10-12 oz) can jalapeño dip  
1 (6-8 oz) container frozen avocado dip, thawed  
1 cup (8 oz) sour cream  
1 cup (4 oz) shredded Cheddar cheese  
1 cup (4 oz) shredded Monterrey Jack  
1 cup green onions, chopped (plus more for garnish)  
1 can (5 oz) sliced black ripe olives, drained  
Spanish paprika

This can be served either in a large straight sides glass pudding dish or on a 14 inch serving platter. If using a pudding dish, simply spread the layers so that the colorful layers can be easily seen. If using a serving platter, pile the layers of ingredients one over another with each successive ingredient leaving a margin of 3/4-inch in a pyramid fashion. For the first layer, spread bean dip to 1/2-inch thickness. Over this, evenly spread a layer of avocado dip to the same thickness (but if using a serving platter, leave a 3/4-inch margin so the bean dish may be seen, and so on.) Next, spread a 1/2-inch thick layer of sour cream (leave a 3/4-inch layer). Layer the remaining ingredients in the same fashion. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for several hours before serving. Sprinkle center lightly with paprika for added color. Garnish with green onions. Serve with tortilla chips, crackers and crisp vegetable strips.

### **CHOCOLATE OATMEAL NO-BAKE COOKIES**

2 cups sugar  
1/2 cup cocoa  
1 stick butter  
1/2 cup milk  
1 tsp. vanilla  
3 cups quick-cooking oatmeal  
1/2 cup peanut butter

Combine sugar, cocoa, butter and milk in a saucepan. On medium heat, bring to a boil for one full minute. Remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter (optional), vanilla and oatmeal. Drop by spoonful onto wax paper. Let cool for at least 30 minutes.

### **APPLE CRISP**

10 cups all-purpose apples -- peeled, cored and sliced  
1 cup white sugar  
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 cup water

1 cup quick-cooking oats  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/4 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degree C). Place the sliced apples in a 9x13 inch pan. Mix the white sugar, 1 tablespoon flour and ground cinnamon together, and sprinkle over apples. Pour water evenly over all. Combine the oats, 1 cup flour, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda and melted butter together. Crumble evenly over the apple mixture. Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for about 45 minutes.

Let's Plan A

BLOCK PARTY

Hi neighbor,

When was the last time we got together, simply to have a party?

Interested in having a block party?  
If so, let's get together to plan one.

DATE: TIME:

LOCATION:

CONTACT: PHONE:

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LOCATION:

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Block Party

SIGN-UP

Sheet

Name:	Phone #:
Address:	Food/Materials/Activity/Other:

Name:	Phone #:
Address:	Food/Materials/Activity/Other:

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Address:	Food/Materials/Activity/Other:



YOU ARE

INVITED TO A

BLOCK PARTY!

Hi neighbor,

When was the last time we got  
together, simply to have a party?

We are having a neighborhood  
Block Party and you are invited!!

DATE:

TIME:

LOCATION:

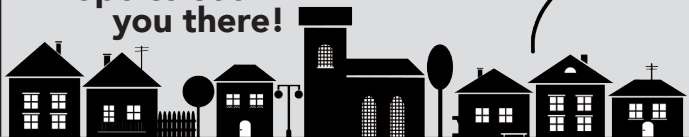
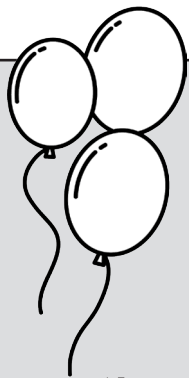
WHAT TO BRING:

PARTY DETAILS:

CONTACT:

PHONE:

**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
Hope to see  
you there!



YOU ARE

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BLOCK PARTY!

Hi neighbor,

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TIME:

LOCATION:

WHAT TO BRING:

PARTY DETAILS:

CONTACT:

PHONE:

**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
Hope to see  
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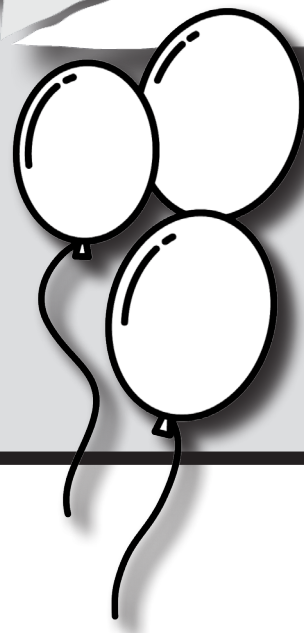


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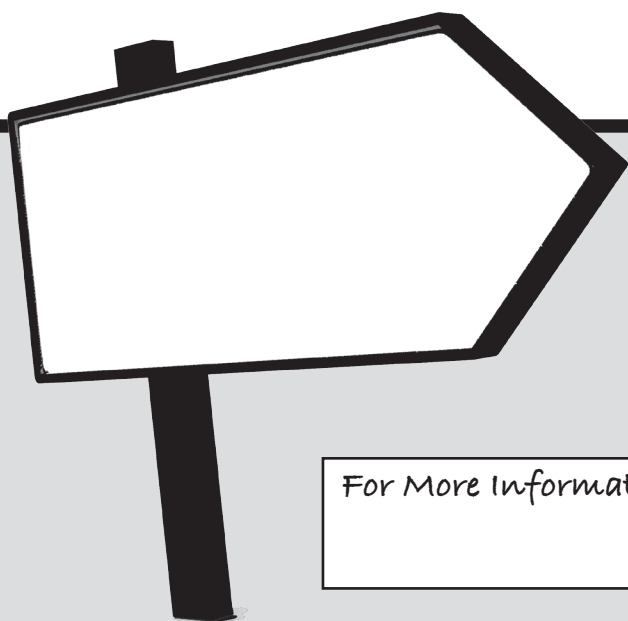
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Location



Block Party Details:



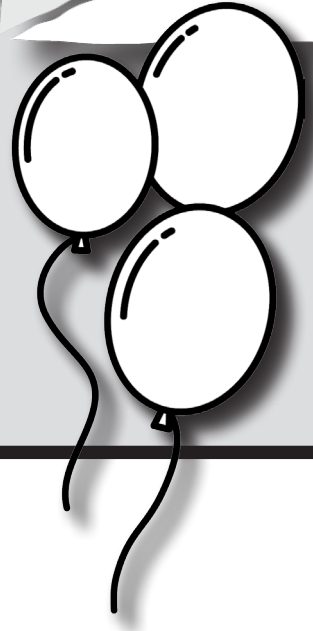
**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
**Hope to see you**  
**there!**

For More Information, contact:

# BLOCK PARTY

Party Start Time

Party Start Time



Activity Details:

**TONIGHT'S  
SCHEDULE**



# PRIZE DRAWING

name (print clearly)

phone number (home/cell)

email



# PRIZE DRAWING

name (print clearly)

phone number (home/cell)

email



# PRIZE DRAWING

name (print clearly)

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Block Party

SIGN-IN

Sheet

Name:	Phone #:
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THANK

YOU

THANK YOU for helping make our Block Party a success!

It was great to renew friendships, meet new neighbors and create a sense of home in our neighborhood. I hope we can all get together more often, and have a party again.

**Let's stay connected!**



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West Valley City

**POLICE**

West Valley City  
Police Department  
Community Response Unit  
3575 South Market Street  
West Valley City, UT 84119

(801) 955-3797  
communityservices@wvc-ut.gov  
www.wvc-ut.gov/cso

Detective Tony Tueller  
Neighborhood Watch Liaison  
anthony.tueller@wvc-ut.gov  
(801) 965-5166



West Valley City  
Public Relations Department  
Neighborhood Services Office  
3600 South Constitution Boulevard  
West Valley City, UT 84119

(801) 963-3562  
neighborhoods@wvc-ut.gov  
www.wvc-ut.gov/neighborhoods

Jeni Harward  
Neighborhood Support Specialist  
jeni.harward@wvc-ut.gov  
(801) 965-7091



*I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives.  
I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.  
~ Abraham Lincoln*

*Neighborhood Watch*  
**Block Parties**

